



ALTERNATIVE LAW FORUM

APPEAL FOR DONATIONS

**LEARN ABOUT OUR WORK AND CHOOSE HOW YOU
WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT US**

How much ever you donate, you are reinforcing the need for
this work and supporting the endeavour.

And for that, we are grateful to you.

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ABOUT ALF

Alternative Law Forum is a lawyers' collective, working in advocacy, research and litigation. By identifying and responding to power dynamics that exist within society using a Constitutional framework, ALF integrates alternative lawyering with critical research and pedagogic interventions.

DONATE TO ALF

While ALF has been working on a variety of issues with the central theme of upholding Constitutional values, in order to continue some of the work, your support is needed. Not just with donations, but in engaging with publications, research work and advocacy. ALF seeks to build a larger community of citizens who are invested in protecting and promoting core Constitutional values. Read further to see how your contribution is essential to every type of work that we engage with. **Donate and help sustain our work.**

FOCUS AREAS

1. Parliamentary Research
2. Litigation
3. Constitution
4. Caste Atrocities and Discrimination
5. Anti-Discrimination
6. Women & Labour
7. Prevention of Sexual Harassment at the Workplace
(Trainings)

FOCUS AREAS

1 PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY: ENGAGING WITH THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

ALF seeks to proactively increase legal awareness about parliamentary processes and enable public engagement with them.

WHAT YOUR DONATION CAN HELP SUPPORT

ALF aims to conduct research and produce material that can empower citizens to engage with legislative processes of their state. From understanding the duties of their elected representatives to actively engaging with the Karnataka Legislative Assembly, this work aims to shine light on the Constitutional responsibilities of both the state and the citizen.

Your donation will help cover costs of producing educational material about legislative processes and research work in the same area.

2 LITIGATION SUBSIDISED LEGAL ASSISTANCE

ALF provides subsidised legal assistance and representation in many types of cases. Some of them are:

1. Caste Atrocities & Discrimination
2. Domestic Violence
3. Land Acquisition
4. Gender Discrimination
5. Family Law
6. Labour Law and Industrial Disputes
7. Criminal Law

Operating with the belief that the law is inherently political, ALF only represents the party that is at the disadvantage of a power structure. For example, in cases of domestic violence, as policy ALF only represents womxn.

ALF's alternative lawyering entails of a type of practise that is rooted in upholding human rights, specifically those enshrined in the values of our Constitution. Legal interventions are only one part of the other kinds of support that we offer to organisations and communities who seek assistance.

WHAT YOUR DONATION CAN HELP SUPPORT

Your donation can directly contribute to supporting ALF's litigators in representing more people who cannot afford legal representation and in intervening at times of crises to assist marginalised people, survivors of violence etc.

Another important contribution will be for an initiative to invite litigators from marginalised backgrounds to work with ALF, in the form of a fellowship. Often, law firms require prior work experience from all applicants for a job, and this indirectly excludes trans people, Dalits, Adivasis and other law graduates from marginalised communities. Through this fellowship, ALF hopes to provide a learning opportunity and work experience for litigators from marginalised backgrounds.

3 CONSTITUTION RESEARCH AND WORKSHOPS

The objective of ALF's efforts to take the Constitution to citizens, students and low-income groups has been primarily to **free it from the clutches of lawyers and courts.** ALF has released a booklet on the Preamble in English and Kannada to talk about the origins, debates, stories and discussions in the Constituent Assembly that shaped the values enshrined in it.

WHAT YOUR DONATION CAN HELP SUPPORT

To take forward this objective to popularise the Constitution and sensitise citizens of its values, ALF conducts short courses & workshops in colleges, government institutions, civil society organisations and citizen groups. ALF aims to reach out to more youth groups and citizen spaces to facilitate processes in which individuals, in different contexts & capacities, can learn and internalize the rights, duties and responsibilities as accrued by the Constitution.

Your donation will cover costs for future workshops and training sessions - such as Course Syllabi writing, Travel, Food, Facilitation and stationery needs.

4 CASTE ATROCITIES WORKSHOPS AND LITIGATION

Dalit communities in Karnataka continue to face not just discrimination, but atrocities leading to deaths, threats to life and further violence. ALF intervenes in such cases to represent survivors of such atrocities and discrimination. As a part of this process, ALF also facilitates workshops and trainings about the SC/ST Prevention of Atrocities Act in the localities of survivors.

WHAT YOUR DONATION CAN HELP SUPPORT

ALF is reaching out to youth groups, civil society organisations and government bodies to facilitate workshops on the SC/ST Prevention of Atrocities Act. The objective of these efforts is to sensitise organisations who work at the grassroots level on social issues and civil society groups who work with workers in the informal sector, Dalit and Adivasi groups and marginalised communities.

Your donations can support bearing the costs of future workshops and your contribution will directly help in building a more resilient and empowered minority.

5 ANTI-DISCRIMINATION ARCHIVING AND COMMUNICATION

1. ALF has been working on building an Anti-Discrimination Archive to focus on 3 aspects:
 - a. Respond to any changes in law, policy, incidents of discrimination around the country
 - b. Trace the jurisprudence through judicial decision on discriminations as well as different doctrines/concepts of law that emerge from it
 - c. Capture histories of movements that were born in response to discrimination and continue to have inextricable links with the law

ALF released a report 'Asserting Dignity in times of COVID: Transgender Community's experience of Battling COVID in Bengaluru, Karnataka' which studies the experience of the transgender community in engaging with relief work during the pandemic and also critically observes the role of the State in supporting marginalized communities.

WHAT YOUR DONATION CAN HELP SUPPORT

In a language that is accessible to common citizens, ALF aims to generate communication material to talk about anti-discrimination with respect to protective legislations, significant judgements and histories and

struggles of people's movements that led to recognition of such rights. This includes videos, posters, interviews, films and music that focus on different aspects of anti-discrimination.

Your donations will help cover costs of resource people and artists whom we can compensate for future collaborations to create communication material.

6 WOMEN & LABOUR RESEARCH ON GARMENT INDUSTRY

Women in the informal sector have been one of the most marginalised communities in India, surviving oppression in different aspects of their lives. Whether it is domestic violence, lower wages, non-payment of wages, caste discrimination or sexual harassment at the workplace, ALF has been engaging with these issues through many ways. Some of them are:

1. Providing pro bono legal assistance to women
2. Producing a research report on sexual harassment in the workplace in the informal sector,
3. Publishing a series of 3 reports to study the impact of lockdowns and factory closures during the pandemic in the garment industry and to document the phenomenon of forced resignations
4. Advocacy and crisis intervention

Currently, in collaboration with garment workers and research consultants, ALF is conducting an exploratory research on the history of the garment industry, what its major developments have been in Karnataka and the factors that have played a major role in these developments.

WHAT YOUR DONATION CAN HELP SUPPORT

Your donation can support a sustained engagement with grassroot level organisations working with women in the informal sector. ALF aims to continue focussed research as well as interventionist approaches with survivors of discrimination, violence and sexual harassment.

7 PREVENTION OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT - TRAININGS

ALF has been conducting legal trainings for various groupings and constituents on the subject of women and the law.

For example, workshops on sexual harassment at the workplace have been conducted for women staff of BMTTC, young adults at Yuvashakti and researchers at Karnataka Health Promotion Trust.

WHAT YOUR DONATION CAN HELP SUPPORT

All organisations must regularly undergo trainings and sessions to sensitise staff about the Prevention of Sexual Harassment at the Workplace Act. Your donations can support ALF's initiative to reach out to more organisations to facilitate trainings and discussions around this issue.